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SNA Implementation Strategy: A Report on a Work in Progress

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Setting the stage

- Now that the changes to be included in *SNA 1993, Rev. 1* have been agreed and drafting is well along, more attention is turning to implementation.
- As first mentioned at the 2006 Statistical Commission and confirmed earlier this year, the ISWGNA will present a strategy for implementing *Rev. 1* in 2008.



Setting the stage (2)

- Because *Rev. 1*, as mandated by the Statistical Commission, maintains the fundamental concepts and framework of the *1993 SNA*, its implementation in many ways is an extension of the past.
- Below, for discussion, are key points that are emerging as the ISWGNA works toward the strategy to be ready in about 6 months.



Implementing the 1993 SNA

- As of 2005, implementation milestone 2 (ability to report GNI and other primary indicators in addition to basic indicators of GDP at current and constant prices) had been reached by...
 - Almost 100 percent of developed countries
 - Less than 60 percent of developing countries
- Reports to the Statistical Commission, regional seminars, IMF data quality assessments, and professional meetings have identified key problems and impediments to implementation.



... the 1993 SNA ⁽²⁾

- Problems and impediments identified so far:
 - Staff resources: number, training, staff turnover, recruitment
 - Lack of source data
 - Informal sector, important in many developing countries, is badly measured or not measured
 - Quality statistics are not well promoted among senior government officials
 - Coordination among TA and training providers could be better
 - Training could be more pragmatic



...the 1993 SNA ⁽³⁾

- **Question:** Does this list of problems and impediments to implementing the 1993 SNA ring true?



An analysis of the situation (2)

- Broadly, constraints affecting the institutional setting and availability of source data, rather than inability to use existing source data, have contributed importantly to slow and/or incomplete implementation of the *1993 SNA*.
- These constraints are likely to hold for *Rev. 1*.
- Thus, an implementation strategy for *Rev 1* should focus more on the institutional setting and availability of source data.



An analysis of the situation (3)

Question: Does this analysis of the needed focus for the Rev. 1 implementation seem appropriate?



Elements of a strategy

- Basic approach being considered: The four elements of the strategy introduced over a decade ago should be sharpened and refocused, and a fifth element added:
 - The elements to be sharpened and refocused:
 - Meetings, training seminars, workshops in NA
 - TA
 - Manuals
 - Applied research
 - New: advocacy



Elements of a strategy ⁽²⁾

- Example of sharpening and refocusing:
Meetings, seminars, workshops
 - Strengthen the regional orientation
 - Develop a coherent curriculum shared across training institutions
 - Put more emphasis on operational subjects, such as reflecting SNA concepts in design of surveys, and institutional building



Elements of a strategy ⁽³⁾

- **Questions:**

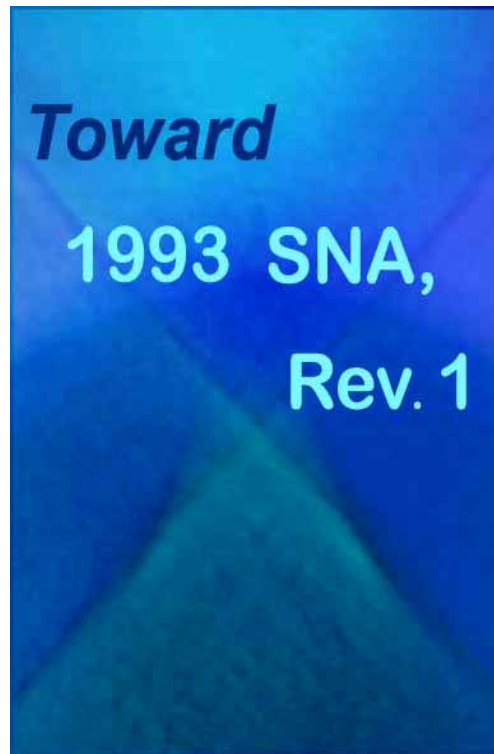
- Do these elements provide an appropriate structure for building an implementation strategy?
- What sharpening and refocusing should be explored?



For discussion: Recap

- Does the list of problems and impediments ring true—that is, resources, source data, informal sector, insufficient promotion of good-quality statistics, TA coordination, a practical orientation in training?
- Will a more effective strategy going forward need to focus more than in the past on the institutional setting and availability of source data?
- Are the elements of the strategy appropriate—that is, workshops, TA and training, manuals, and applied research combined with advocacy? How can they be sharpened and refocused?

Thank you



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